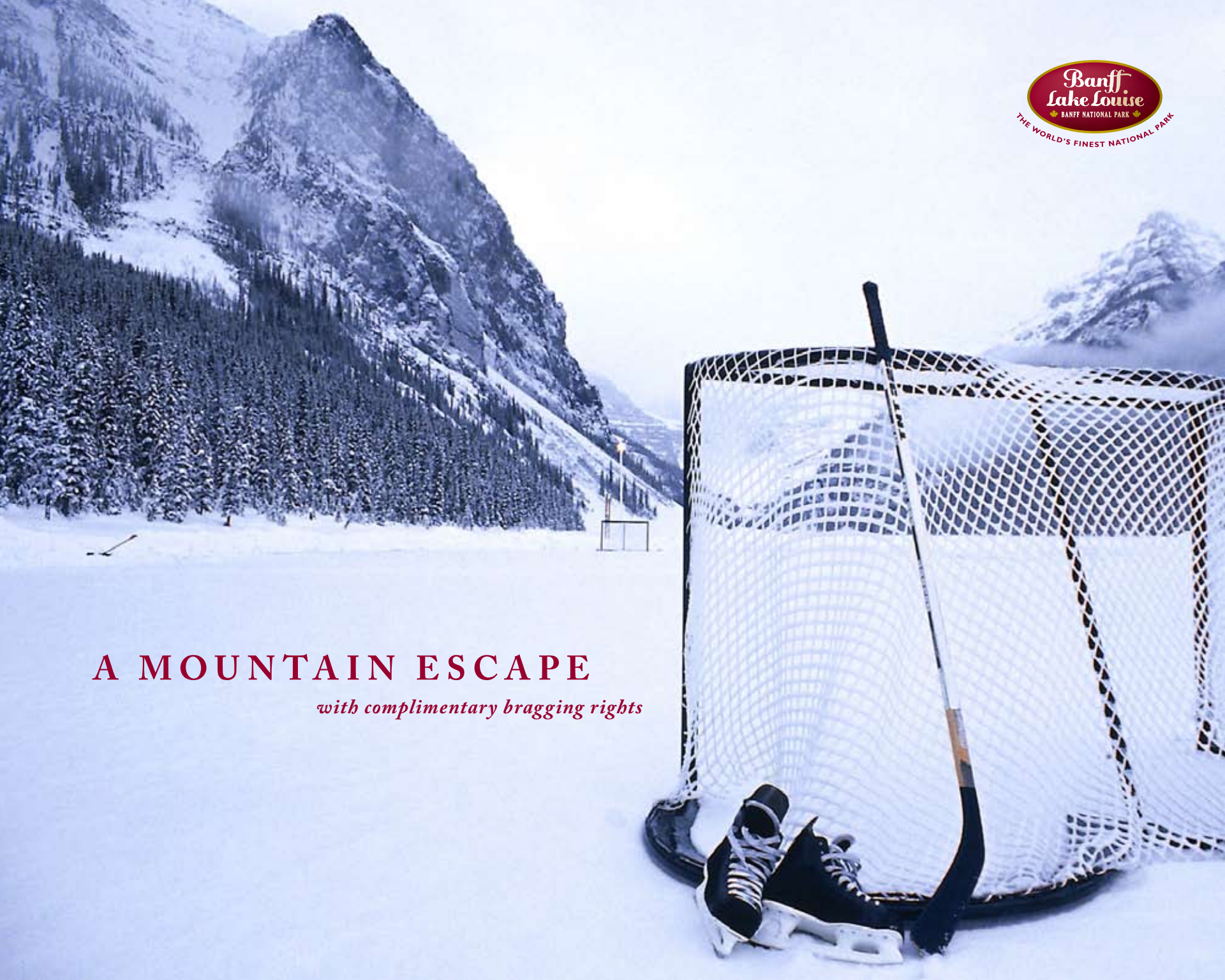

A MOUNTAIN ESCAPE

with complimentary bragging rights

EXPERIENCE THE FINEST

Paradise. Heaven on earth. These are just a few words that visitors use to describe Banff National Park. You will be hard pressed to find a finer balance of unspoiled wilderness and refined amenities. It is a truly unique destination, which has earned its reputation through careful preservation of its natural wonders and welcoming spirit. Enjoy days beyond compare in the unspoiled beauty that only Banff National Park can offer.

Banff National Park was awarded a UNESCO World Heritage Site designation in 1984

THE REAL POWDER EXPERIENCE

Banff National Park offers an unparalleled ski experience. The moment you reach the mountain peak it hits you – the unspoiled beauty, the wide-open runs and the feeling of near guilt for having this almost all to yourself. You will soon realize that there is nothing else that comes close to an experience like this. Whether you are gracefully cascading through the unspoiled landscape on a guided dogsled, on a romantic sleigh ride or relishing the solitude of a pristine ski run, no other destination will touch you in quite the same way as Banff National Park.

MORE THAN A BEAUTIFUL VIEW

Many visitors to Banff National Park have a similar comment to make: it is unlike any other mountain destination. The protected surroundings are easily accessible and offer an extraordinary experience for all. It is not so much a destination as it is a lifestyle – one that is authentic, refined and exhilarating. Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, canoeing, or just taking in the mountain air, each day is as memorable as the next. Imagine waking every morning in the middle of the most beautiful and engaging surroundings, without a care in the world, totally free to pursue your own personal paradise. This is Banff National Park, and once you've experienced it for yourself, it is hard to imagine visiting anywhere else.

THE FINEST IN MOUNTAIN CULTURE

The astounding beauty of the natural surroundings is only exceeded by the warmth and inviting hospitality of the mountain culture found in Banff National Park. Destination enthusiasts from across the globe return year after year to be pampered, thrilled and overwhelmed by the world-class service and amenities. Share a tale with locals over coffee, indulge in the culinary delights of local wild game, discover the unique talents of local artists and musicians or bask in the relaxing atmosphere of our many renowned resorts. If you seek a destination that offers you a genuine mountain culture experience, then Banff National Park awaits you.

RICH MOUNTAIN HERITAGE & HISTORY

For over a century, people from all walks of life have been drawn to the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Banff National Park was established in 1885 as Canada's first National Park and third in the world. Its beauty has fascinated and captivated people from the moment the Canadian Pacific Railway began transporting them by ocean liner and luxury coach to these majestic mountains. Hotels and spas of grandeur and luxury were built to tempt travelers while setting new standards of service. These historic properties with old-world charm still stand today and that level of service is precisely the same service you can expect every time you visit Banff National Park.

TOP ATTRACTIONS

LAKE MINNEWANKA BOAT TOURS

Let an experienced crew guide you through the history, folklore and geology of this unique lake and the historic village, Minnewanka Landing, which rests submerged beneath its waters – a site now only seen by divers. During a peaceful cruise across this treasured lake, the towering peaks that rise from the emerald water's edge will enchant you while the raw natural beauty and rich wildlife will leave you feeling connected with nature.

LAKE LOUISE GONDOLA

Choose either an open chair or a fully enclosed gondola to carry you up to an elevation of 2088 metres/6850 feet. No matter which way you choose, the ride is only the beginning. At the top, you'll be left breathless by the panoramic splendor of the majestic mountains and intrigued by interpretive displays and guides who will lead you through the landscape, following in the footsteps of wildlife and early explorers.

COLUMBIA ICEFIELD GLACIER EXPERIENCE

Board the giant, all-terrain Ice Explorer for a chance to see one of the largest accumulations of ice and snow south of the Arctic Circle. This massive 325 sq km icefield is a true hydrological apex with runoff that feeds into the Arctic, Atlantic, and Pacific oceans. Experience the immense wonder of a 1,000 foot slab of ice while walking across terrain formed from snow falling some 400 years ago. Afterwards, you can retire to the Columbia Icefield Centre for a relaxing meal surrounded by the view of ancient rock and ice.

THE BANFF GONDOLA

It's a quick 8 minute trip to the top of Sulphur Mountain and one of the most spectacular panoramic views in Western Canada. Once at the top, you can visit interpretive displays, take in the sight of 6 mountain ranges and tour the 1 km elevated boardwalk along Sulphur Mountain's summit ridge to the Cosmic Ray Station, a National Historic Site, and the historic Sanson's Peak Meteorological Station.

POPULAR LOOKOUTS

MORAINE LAKE

Relax and enjoy the view at this iconic mountain lake known for its arresting emerald green waters. Fed by glacial meltwater, Moraine Lake was featured on the reverse side of the 1969 and 1979 issues of the Canadian twenty dollar bill.

HOODOOS

These bizarre stone pillars, which owe their irregular shape to thousands of years of wind and water erosion, range in size from that of an average person to a 10 story building. A short, interpretive trail through these otherworldly spires unlocks their mystery and leads to a superb view of the Bow Valley.

VERMILLION LAKES

Take the Fenland Interpretive Trail – a 2 km loop – to where a massive wetland brims with life and beauty. These stunning lakes are an ideal place to canoe, watch for over 250 species of birds and take a break in the third lake's natural hot spring.

JOHNSON LAKE

Known locally as Banff's summer watering hole, you can explore its easy lakeside trail year round. This short trail will lead you through a gorgeous montane forest, as well as various marshy areas where waterfowl and muskrat are sometimes sighted.

JOHNSTON CANYON

This trail is lined with some of the most magnificent waterfalls in the area making it one of the most popular hikes in Banff National Park. While numerous cascading waterfalls are the main attraction, the towering walls of rock and breathtaking cliffs will leave you in awe.

BOW FALLS

Situated beneath the grand Banff Springs Hotel, Bow Falls is where the Bow River pours over eroded limestone ledges to create a roaring, must see waterfall. The Bow Falls Trail is a relaxing hike that will bring you close enough to feel the thundering of the falls.

CASCADE PONDS

A great place to relax and unwind amid grassy meadows, clear shallow ponds and a small beach. It's the perfect setting for picnicking or gazing at the stars beside a crackling campfire.

LAKE LOUISE

With its turquoise waters sparkling underneath the towering Victoria Glacier, Lake Louise is one of the Canadian Rockies most beloved places. Stroll the 5 km path to the end of the lake or take in nature's beauty and wonder while paddling a canoe.

SCENIC DRIVES

THE BOW VALLEY PARKWAY

This peaceful two lane route between the towns of Banff and Lake Louise features breathtaking picnic spots, various hiking and cross-country skiing trails and stunning views. Accessible by bike or car, the parkway is punctuated by award winning interpretive displays and unique sites like Johnston Canyon, the 1800s ghost town of Silver City and the Hillsdale slide. Wildlife viewing opportunities are numerous along this scenic drive – watch the towering cliffs for a glimpse of bighorn sheep and the swamps for elk and wolves.

THE ICEFIELDS PARKWAY

Rated one of the world's great scenic highways by National Geographic, the Icefields Parkway is a journey through expansive mountain wilderness, ancient glaciers, sweeping valleys and crystal clear mountain lakes. Beginning in Lake Louise, the carefully engineered road winds past lookout and picnicking sites, Athabasca falls, hiking trails and the not to be missed Columbia Icefields. This stunning route is also home to elk, moose, mountain goats, sheep, bears and caribou, which are often sighted along the highway.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

BANFF PARK MUSEUM

A must see, 3D field guide to Banff's wildlife, birds, insects and history that commemorates an early approach to the interpretation of Canada's natural history. The architectural style and decorative cross-log construction of the 1903 log building is characteristic of early federal buildings in the Park and an important part of the Park's preserved history.

CAVE AND BASIN

Cave and Basin is not only the discovery site of Banff National Park, but also the birthplace of Canada's national park system, which began in 1885. Interactive displays and exhibits will guide you through the growth and development of Canada's national park system. The naturally occurring warm mineral springs that tourists once flocked to for their curative powers can be seen inside the ancient cave and outside in an emerald coloured basin.

FESTIVALS

The richness of Banff National Park's mountain culture comes alive in the many festivals held amongst the towering peaks throughout the year. When the snow flies, festivals showcasing ice carving, film, World Cup ski racing, and the holiday season light up the Rockies. Spring and summer bring an opulent mix of wine sampling, gallery exhibits, celebrations of Canada's birthday and cultural festivities such as dragon boat racing. Banff National Park's eclectic mix of festivals not only amazes and intrigues, but also allows visitors a deeper experience into the local mountain culture.

WEDDINGS

Blossoming meadows, emerald lakes and ruggedly beautiful mountain peaks. These unique and sought after natural wonders provide the stunning backdrop for weddings in Banff National Park. Imagine your wedding taking place next to the rushing waters of a picturesque waterfall or in the castle-like halls of magnificent hotels more than a century old. Even if you want to be transported by helicopter to a spectacular mountain peak to say your vows, your dream can become a reality. From 2 people to groups of 200, Banff National Park offers an idyllic setting for weddings of all kinds.

MEETINGS, INCENTIVE, CONVENTIONS & EXHIBITIONS

Banff National Park is an unforgettable setting for meetings that inspire. First class amenities in Banff and Lake Louise, extraordinary offsite venues, and themed group events effortlessly blend with the natural beauty of a protected wilderness environment, jagged Rocky Mountains and abundant wildlife.

Banff and Lake Louise can accommodate up to 2,000 people, while smaller or more private meetings will find interesting places and tranquil spaces of all sizes at boutique inns with options to fit every budget. Choose between luxurious resorts that celebrate more than a century of Canadian history, contemporary facilities with state-of-the-art conveniences and memorable boutique lodges in the forest. The Park offers the best of both worlds for meeting planners looking for an exceptional conference, relaxing meeting retreat or exhilarating teambuilding adventure.

HOW TO GET HERE

Banff National Park is a 90-minute drive west of Calgary, Alberta, via the four-lane, year-round Trans Canada Highway. Calgary International Airport is the gateway to Banff National Park and is served by many international carriers and airlines. The Park is also accessible by rail, charter coach and scheduled bus service. Major car rental agencies are conveniently located in Banff, Lake Louise and Calgary.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

	HIGH	LOW
Winter (January – March)	2°C/36°F	-14°C/7°F
Spring (April – June)	10°C/50°F	6°C/43°F
Summer (July – September)	18°C/64°F	10°C/50°F
Fall (October – December)	5°C/41°F	-10°C/14°F

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL

Sunshine Village 670cm/264 in 9.1m / 30 ft

Lake Louise Mountain Resort 454 cm/179 in 4.5m / 15 ft

Ski Norquay 243 cm/96 in 3m / 10 ft

Visit our website and click on 'Travel Trade' for additional planning resources.

For group bookings, meetings and incentive travel, please contact our sales team:

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